



(Photo by Dylan Brown/Independent Record)

Five new and returning Montana Arts Council members are (clockwise from upper left): Arlene Parisot, Corky Clairmont, Tom Cordingley, Karen Bohlinger and Jay Pyette.

Governor appoints five MAC members

Governor Steve Bullock announced five appointments to the Montana Arts Council. Two members were reappointed for second terms: Arlene Parisot of Helena and Corky Clairmont of Ronan. Three members were appointed for new five-year terms: Karen Bohlinger and Tom Cordingley of Helena and Jay Pyette of Havre.

The newcomers replace former chairman Jackie Parsons of Browning, Tracy Linder of Billings and Kathy Schlepp of Miles City. Arni Fishbaugh, executive director of the Montana Arts Council, said the council "appreciates immensely the incredibly valuable work done by these three departing members."

Jackie Parsons served as MAC chairman for the last eight years, and has been on the council for 19 years. "She is the longest-serving MAC member in my memory," says Fishbaugh. "She has been there through the thickest and thinnest of times."

"Her steady guidance, unwavering support and tireless advocacy provided the solid hand needed to keep the agency staff and council focused on doing the very best job for Montana. We are going to miss her tremendously and can't thank her enough for her years of service to the arts and the council," she added.

Schlepp, who chaired the arts education committee for many years, "has been our stalwart voice for eastern Montana and for arts education. She always provided such a practical, no-nonsense, straightforward approach to the many issues that arose for the agency," says Fish-

baugh. "Her steadiness and reasonableness were always hallmarks of the best kind of decision-making."

Tracy Linder, an artist who lives in Molt, looked out for the interests of individual artists and helped the agency develop its Artist Innovation Award program. "During her time on the council, her constructive, creative and diligent work resulted not only development of this brand-new program, but also great ideas and suggestions that influenced many aspects of the agency," says Fishbaugh.

"These individuals have given their very best to the state of Montana, and we all owe them our deepest thanks and highest regard."

According to the director, the new appointments and re-appointments "provide a very solid cadre of voices to the council. Each of these individuals is highly experienced in arenas that are important to the arts world in Montana. We can't wait to get to work with them!"

Returning to the council:

Corky Clairmont, Ronan, is a celebrated contemporary artist, combining his experience as a Native and tribal member with a post-modernist view of the realities of life as indigenous people struggle to retain their identities and sovereignty into the 21st century. He is also a teacher, mentor and a community activist.

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Montana-made films premiere in Cannes and L.A.

Montana hit the big screen May 15-26 in two of the 19 films selected for the 2013 Cannes Film Festival competition: Academy Award-winning filmmaker Alexander Payne's "Nebraska" and French director Arnaud Desplechin's "Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)."

In addition, "Winter in the Blood," co-directors Alex and Andrew Smith's Montana-made film, made its world premiere at the Los Angeles Film Festival in June.

"Nebraska" and "Jimmy P." were shot in Montana in 2012, utilizing the state's tax credits offered through the Big Sky on the Big Screen Act.

"Having two films that were shot in our state featured in the world's most prestigious film festival is a testament not only to Montana as a wonderful shooting location but to the men and women who make up our cast and crew base," said Montana Film Commissioner Deny Staggs.

"Nebraska," described as a "good old-fashioned comedy" by Payne, used several locations in Billings and Laurel in late 2012. The Paramount feature hired 62 Montana-based crew members and service providers, in addition to casting 30 local extras.

Known for the success of his previous films "The Descendants," "Sideways" and "Election," Payne chose

to shoot "Nebraska" in Montana because it was the authentic location of the story. The film follows a father and son (played by Bruce Dern and Will Forte) as they travel from Montana to Nebraska on a questionable quest to collect a \$1 million prize.

"Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)" is acclaimed French director Desplechin's first English-language film. It was shot in Browning and East Glacier in July 2012, with a crew of 35 Montanans. The production also cast 125 enrolled or descendent Native Americans as extras in the film.

Based on the book *Reality and Dream: Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian* by Georges Devereux, "Jimmy P." traces the true story of a Blackfeet Indian who returns from World War II and develops a relationship with Devereux, a groundbreaking psychoanalyst who pioneered the practice of dream analysis and interpretation.

The independent feature stars Benicio Del Toro (known for his roles in "Traffic" and "Sin City"), Mathieu Amalric and Elya Baskin.

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"Jimmy P." – one of two Montana-made films that premiered at Cannes Film Festival – was shot on the Blackfeet Reservation.

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Arts community loses important contributors

Montana lost two important members of the arts community this spring: noted curator and Gros Ventre tribal member George Horse Capture and arts presenter Chas Cantlon.

George Horse Capture: "Narrowing the chasm between two worlds"

George Paul Horse Capture Sr., "Nat Gyagya Nee," died April 16 at his home in Great Falls of complications from diabetes. He was 75.

"George Horse Capture stood as a man with his feet successfully planted in two worlds – the traditional culture of the Gros Ventre and the polite society of America's academic elite. In doing so, he narrowed the chasm dividing these two worlds and left behind a legacy for generations yet to come," wrote the *Great Falls Tribune*.

Horse Capture was born in a log cabin on the Fort

Belknap Reservation in 1937, and attended schools in Harlem and Butte before joining the Navy. He learned to weld in the Navy, and after attending school in Los Angeles, became a state steel inspector for California's Department of Water Resources.

While living in the San Francisco Bay area, he participated in the Native American occupation of Alcatraz Island, an experience that changed his life, and prompted his enrollment in the Indian Studies program at the University of California, Berkeley. He earned a degree in anthropology, followed by an internship at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

He returned to Montana, where he earned his master's degree in history from Montana State University, and taught at MSU and the College of Great Falls.

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